NEWS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE



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New Budget Notices Website Launched

INDIANAPOLIS (September 22, 2014) – The Indiana Department of Local Government Finance has created and launched a new statewide budget notice website that will provide taxpayers with the ability to view local government budget notices in one central online location. These notices can be viewed any time, day or night once submitted by the local units. Additionally, if a taxpayer wants to look at the budget notices for multiple areas, they can now do so using this one centralized location.

<u>BudgetNotices.IN.Gov</u> will assist citizens who want to attend and stay involved with the budgeting process of their local government units. Taxpayers will be able to view all local government units in their county, search by their address, or use an interactive map tool. This website has been designed to promote the importance of budget notices and the role that they play in the daily lives of Indiana taxpayers.

<u>BudgetNotices.IN.Gov</u> allows Indiana taxpayers the opportunity to view budget notices at their convenience and not depend on following a printed publication. "Budget notices are vital to transparency," said Courtney Schaafsma, commissioner of the Department of Local Government Finance. "It is important that the State continues to pursue opportunities to benefit Indiana taxpayers and this is a step in the right direction."

Taxpayers that do not have Internet access or have difficulties with the website may contact the Department at (888) 739-9826 and request a paper copy of the notices for their local government units.

<u>BudgetNotices.IN.Gov</u> is available on the Indiana Gateway for Government Units. Gateway is the primary collection and publishing tool for local government units submitting their required reports to the State of Indiana. It has the benefits of digital collection into a robust data warehouse and immediate accessibility by taxpayers.

<u>BudgetNotices.IN.Gov</u> was established with the passage of House Enrolled Act 1266. The budget notices application was developed to provide Hoosiers with another way to learn about the budget process for the local taxing units and in particular, to know when hearings would be held on next year's proposed budgets.

The Indiana Department of Local Government Finance is the state agency that oversees the property tax and local government budgeting system in Indiana.

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